

No. 27092

**FRANCE
and
UNION OF SOVIET
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS**

**Agreement on cooperation relating to public archives. Signed
at Paris on 4 July 1989**

Authentic texts: French and Russian.

Registered by France on 29 January 1990.

**FRANCE
et
UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES
SOCIALISTES SOVIÉTIQUES**

**Accord sur la coopération en matière d'archives publiques.
Signé à Paris le 4 juillet 1989**

Textes authentiques : français et russe.

Enregistré par la France le 29 janvier 1990.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS ON COOPERATION RELATING TO PUBLIC ARCHIVES

The Government of the French Republic, on the one hand, and

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, on the other,

Considering that the development of friendship and cooperation between countries and peoples requires mutual knowledge of their individual features, histories, cultures and achievements,

Considering that the broadening of that knowledge presupposes the study and use of documents which enable history to be retraced, particularly the documents in public archives, that is to say, the archives produced by all the State bodies of each country,

Referring to the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe of 1 August 1975² relating to cooperation and exchanges in the field of culture,

Referring also to the Declaration on the Development of Friendship and Cooperation between the French Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of 17 October 1975,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Contracting Parties shall develop their cooperation in relation to public archives on the basis of total reciprocity and with respect for the national legislation of each country.

Article 2

Each Contracting Party shall transmit to the other Party a list of reference materials concerning archive documents published as of the date of signature of this Agreement.

This list shall be updated annually.

Each Party may request from the other Party any reference materials which are of interest to it.

Article 3

With a view to building up their national archives by adding documents containing information on the history of their countries and peoples, the two Contracting Parties shall exchange copies (photocopies or microfilm) of such documents from their archives on the basis of equivalence.

¹ Came into force on 4 July 1989 by signature, in accordance with article 9.

² *International Legal Materials*, vol. 14 (1975), p. 1292 (American Society of International Law).

Article 4

The Contracting Parties shall undertake joint publication of archive documents on the history of relations between their two countries.

Article 5

The Contracting Parties shall exchange legislative and statutory texts governing the organization and operation of their archive institutions, their archivistic literature and scientific and methodological literature on archive matters (manuals, working rules, scholarly works and articles, proceedings of scientific conferences and seminars, archivistic periodicals, etc.), and publications of archive documents by their respective archive institutions.

Article 6

The two Contracting Parties shall develop and improve their exchanges of experience in archive matters in those areas which are of mutual interest.

To that end, the two Contracting Parties shall exchange information on archivistic problems, and shall organize exchanges of archive specialists on the basis of reciprocity and without payment in currency.

The specific details of these exchanges shall be determined by arrangement between the relevant archive institutions of the two Parties.

Article 7

Each Contracting Party shall offer assistance to researchers of the other Party in order to facilitate their research in its public archives.

To that end, the researchers of each of the two Parties shall enjoy access to all the works of reference, whether published or not, relating to the subjects of their research.

Article 8

This Agreement shall concern the public archives of the two countries, namely:

In the case of France: the archives which are under the direction of the Directorate of Archives of France, the Directorate of Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Historical Services of the Ministry of Defence;

In the case of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: the archives which are under the direction of the Main Archives Directorate of the Council of Ministers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, including the archives of a military and historical nature, and the archives which are under the direction of the Historical and Diplomatic Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Article 9

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

DONE at Paris, on 4 July 1989, in two copies, each in the French and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[ROLAND DUMAS]

For the Government
of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics:

[EDWARD SHEVARDNADZE]